

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT M 00218 180842Z
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /055 W
-----180846 091301 /17

R 180343Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2090
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
CINCPAC HONOLULU

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PGOV PINT PP
SUBJ: PNG NATIONAL PARLIAMENT NOMINATES TORE LOKOLOKO FOR
GOVERNOR GENERAL

1. ON AFTERNOON OF 17 FEB PNG NATIONAL PARLIAMENT VOTED
(BY 61 TO 18) TO NOMINATE TORE LIKOLOKO AS GOVERNOR GENERAL
OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA. NOMINATION MUST NOW BE PRESENTED TO
QUEEN FOR APPOINTMENT. WE UNDERSTAND SPECIAL COURIER WILL
BE SENT TO NEW ZEALAND IN ATTEMPT TO FINALIZE ARRANGEMENTS
FOR APPOINTMENT SO THAT GOVERNOR GENERAL WILL BE IN PLACE
PRIOR TO QUEEN'S VISIT TO PNG IN MARCH. DECISION BY
PARLIAMENT FOLLOWS OVER WEEK'S SPECULATION RE POSSIBLE
CANDIDATES FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENT OF SIR JOHN GUISE ON FEB 7
THAT HE WOULD RESIGN ON 28 FEB.

2. SIR MAORI KIKI AND SIR TEI ABAL, WHO WERE CONSIDERED
DESIRABLE CHOICES FOR POSITION, BOTH CHOSE TO REMAIN IN
POLITICAL ARENA FOR COMING PNG NATIONAL ELECTIONS. THOMAS
KAVALI, FORMER MINISTER FOR LANDS SACKED BY SOMARE
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LAST YEAR, INITIALLY APPEARED TO HAVE STRONG BACKING BY
DISCONTENTED ELEMENTS OF PARLIAMENT, BUT WAS
STRONGLY OPPOSED BY COALITION GOVERNMENT. LAST MINUTE
COMPROMISE HAMMERED OUT BETWEEN SOMARE GOVT PARTY OPPOSITION
ON MORNING OF 17TH WAS TO SUPPORT TORE LOKOLOKO FOR GG IN
ORDER TO STOP KAVALI DESPITE FACT THAT LOKOLOKO ALLEGEDLY HAS
SERIOUS MEDICAL PROBLEMS AND DID NOT DESIRE TO STAND. LOKOLOKO

EVIDENTLY HAS BEEN PERSUADED TO HOLD THE POSITION FOR AN UNDEFINED PERIOD (PROBABLY NOT FAR BEYOND CONCLUSION OF NATIONAL ELECTIONS) AND WILL THEN STAND DOWN SO THAT NEW GOVT WILL BE ABLE TO INFLUENCE CHOICE OF GG TO HOLD OFFICE FOR NEXT FIVE YEARS.

3. THIS ARRANGEMENT, AND FACT THAT LOKOLOKO IS PAPUAN MEMBER OF UNITED PARTY WHO NOT INTERESTED IN STANDING FOR NEXT ELECTIONS, COMBINED TO PROMOTE HIS NOMINATION.

4. BIOGRAPHIC DATA: BORN IOKEA VILLAGE GULF PROVINCE 1930. MARRIED WITH TEN CHILDREN. EDUCATED SOGERI HIGH SCHOOL. INFLUENTIAL IN COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT FROM 1950-1968. READS AND SPEAKS ENGLISH, PIDGIN, MOTU, AND TOARIPI. EXTENSIVE OVERSEAS TRAVEL INCLUDES INDIA, PHILLIPPINES, SOUTHEAST ASIA. REPRESENTED PNG AT UNGA IN NEW YORK 1969. FIRST ELECTED TO PARLIAMENT IN 1968 AND WAS MINISTER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND DEPUTY SPOKESMAN FOR THE ADMINISTRATOR'S EXECUTIVE COUNCIL IN SECOND HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY (1968-1972). (NOTE: AEC WAS EMBRYO OF CABINET WHICH LATER EVOLVED.) MEMBER OF UNITED CHURCH.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NOMINATION, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 18-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation History:
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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TAGS: PGOV, PINT, PP, (LOKOLOKO, TORE)
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Type: TE
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